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reconstructed belongs, performs processing of data read/write requests from the host unit, and determines an amount of the processing of reconstructing data instead of the processing of data read/write requests based on a predetermined time.

REMARKS

The applicants' representatives would like to express their appreciation to Primary Examiner Hoa T. Nguyen for the courtesy of the personal interview conducted on April 6, 2000. This supplemental amendment is being submitted pursuant to the discussion at the interview.

The substitute specification and claims 18, 21, 24, 26-30, 32-33, 36-42, and 44 have been amended. Claims 18-21, 24, and 26-44 are pending, with claims 18, 21, 24, 26-30, 32-33, 36-42, and 44 being independent.

The substitute specification has been amended to eliminate an inadvertent error which occurred when the substitute specification was prepared. This was not discussed during the interview.

Claims 18, 21, 24, 26-30, 32-33, 36-42, and 44 have been to clarify language which was intended to respond to the following comments by the Examiner in the explanation of the rejection of claims 18-22, 24, and 26-31 under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, set forth in the Office Action of January 3, 2000:

Claim 18: Lines 7-9, "the storage units in which a fault has occurred" lacks antecedent basis. Further, the claim lacks of essential structure/function to

provide support for this limitation. Further, "a corresponding one of the data groups and corresponding error correcting data" lacks antecedent basis. **Claims 21, 22, 24, 26-30** contain the same issue as to that of **claim 18**.

During the interview, agreement was reached on changes to be made to independent claims 18, 21, 24, 26-30, 32-33, 36-42, and 44 to clarify this language. These changes have been made by the present amendment, together with additional changes which were necessary to be consistent with these changes.

It is submitted that claims 18, 21, 24, 26-30, 32-33, 36-42, and 44 and claims 19-20, 31, 34-35, and 43 depending from independent claims 18, 30, 33, and 42 are now in compliance with 35 USC 112, second paragraph.

For the reasons set forth above and in the amendment of March 24, 2000, it is submitted that all of the Examiner's objections and rejections have been overcome, and that the application is now in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of the application and an action of a favorable nature are respectfully requested.


If the present supplemental amendment and the amendment of March 24, 2000, do not resolve all outstanding issues and place the application in condition for allowance, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner call the undersigned attorney to discuss any remaining issues before issuing another Office Action.

Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, or credit any overpayment of fees,

to the deposit account of Antonelli, Terry, Stout & Kraus,
LLP, Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (500.31108CC4).

Respectfully submitted,

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